

SCRANTON TRIBUNE

F. E. WOOD,
General Manager.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY IN SCRANTON, PA., BY THE TRIBUNE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

NEW YORK OFFICE: TRIBUNE BUILDING, FRANK S. GRAY, MANAGER.

Entered at the Postoffice at Scranton, Pa., as Second-Class Mail Matter.

THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE.

SCRANTON, JANUARY 23, 1894.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET

FOR CONGRESSMAN-AT-LARGE,
GALUSHA A. GROW,
OF SUSQUEHANNA.

ELECTION FEBRUARY 20

THE BEST OF FRIENDS.

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THAT TAX on cards dovetails ill with the Democratic party's predilection for playing the dence.

IT OUGHT to and probably will deeply pain the French novelist, Zola, to learn that Ambassador Smalley does not "approve" of him.

PRESIDENT DOLE represents in his own personality one of the best arguments for Hawaiian annexation. America needs such men as he.

ALTHOUGH THE patriotic Colonel Corbett has been outbitten by a blooming Britisher, we are proud to announce that the government at Washington still lives.

IT IS intimated at Philadelphia that Congressman Wright of the Fifteenth will get back without opposition; but this report would carry more conviction if it had originated at Towanda or Honesdale.

THERE IS no reason to wonder that Mr. Cleveland should think President Dole's letters "most extraordinary." President Dole, it is increasingly believed, is a most extraordinary man. We wish there were more like him in the high places at Washington.

THERE HAVE been few more salient caricatures than that one in the Washington Post which represented "Business" as a shy and pretty little maid, attended by the dangerous and wolfish companion, "Tariff Uncertainty." But in this new application of the Little Red Riding Hood fable, it should not be forgotten which party makes the tariff uncertain.

IT WILL do the Philadelphia Times no good to begin a belated cuckoo scream of indignation because patriotic and fair-minded representatives in congress applauded the reading of Dole's neat bottling of up Willis. There is no more reason to condemn them than there has been to condemn William Pitt, the elder, for his sympathy with the American colonies.

OUR CARBON county contemporaries are having a deal of sport at the expense of District Attorney Fisher and County Detective Isaacs, in whose town a big cocking main was recently held, constituting a bold violation of the law. But this does not begin to compare with the experience of District Attorney Garman, of Luzerne, whose home town, Nanticoke, has prize fights at almost regular intervals. The difficulty in both cases is presumably a lack of information.

THERE IS one rule THE TRIBUNE desires to make emphatic. It relates to every correspondent who has a grievance to air or a friend to praise. The columns of THE TRIBUNE are open at all times to legitimate news of household interest; but it can give no space in its news columns to individual opinion upon local men or measures unless such opinions are accompanied, for publication, by the writer's name. This rule is made for the mutual protection of writer, publisher and reader, and will be adhered to.

THERE IS a young club man of Boston, it seems, who has so little to do that he proposes, upon a wager, to circle the globe, beginning without a penny in his possession, and returning with five thousand dollars saved. This Democratic era of the unemployed does not offer a high inducement to such bets as this; but the experience which the club man would acquire is not without its value. The five thousand dollars is to be earned honestly, which is some consolation in communities where the burglar and footpad roles is already overdone.

ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT move in the direction of cheap car fare has been made by a traction company whose lines connect Catasque with South Bethlehem. This, as the cars go, is nearly an hour's ride, but the fare has been lowered to only five cents. Scrantonians, enjoying as they do, the cheapest street car service, quality considered, of American cities of corresponding size, congratulate the good people of the Lehigh Valley upon their gradual approximation to the Scranton standard.

A RUSSIAN immigrant, Olan Sedlesky, who said that four years ago he had been employed in the coal mines in Scranton, was arrested at Ellis Island Sunday, charged with bringing over twenty compatriots in violation of the law. These newcomers were detained and will be sent back under the statute barring out "assisted" immigrants. The evidence does not show where Sedlesky got the money with which to "assist" his companions; but in default of a better explanation Democratic editors are at liberty to charge it all up to the robber coal barons.

This would not involve any additional hardships on the part of the barons, and it would give the Democratic editors a needed change of themes.

AT OTHER times and under conditions which have not been infrequent in the political history of Pennsylvania, such an endorsement as that given last Saturday by the Philadelphia Republican delegation to the gubernatorial candidacy of General Hastings would be regarded by many as premature. Such an impression, now, however, is clearly impossible. The drift of popular sentiment, steady as an ocean tide, has pointed so unerringly to General Hastings' nomination that talk of serious opposition has well nigh utterly subsided. It is a fortunate coincidence in the annals of Keystone Republicanism when leaders and masses are in such complete accord. It augurs well for the future of honest government.

BUILDING ON SAND.
No policy can endure for long as a feature of intelligent government which is based wholly upon unrelieved selfishness. The man who asks that the government protect his steel mill should, if from no higher ground than expediency, be willing to let the government afford corresponding protection to his neighbor's factory or mine. A community in one section cannot hope to get permanent help by federal legislation, through tariff protection upon its special interests, unless it is disposed to concede a proportionate share of encouragement to other communities having different interests standing in similar need.

When Representative Haines, of Troy, for instance, conceded that the collar and cuff industry could prosper only under protection, he gave the whole case of the Democratic party away. He cannot upon any tenable ground of logic or ethics deny to other sections and other industries a protection which he earnestly demands as indispensable to his own. It would be far nobler, far more manly, were he to put himself down flat footed for an ad valorem revenue tariff of a single fixed per cent. on all goods whatsoever imported into this land, thus discarding utterly the whole idea of protection, than to claim protection for one industry and profess a willingness to let the other industries "root, hog, or die."

The Wilson bill, with its slashes and blotches of favoritism and ultra-prejudice, is not a revenue tariff bill. It is not even a revenue reform bill. It is simply a gratuitous conspiracy of sectional hatred and revenge, relieved by reckless experiments planned for what they are worth.

In contrast with this indecisive, this incongruous, chaotic bill, stands the present tariff act, representing a fixed and scientific purpose. While the McKinley law, in its various schedules, lays no claim to perfection, candid economists concede that it represents the nearest approximation yet made to systematic, coherent protection. Its sole purpose and aim was to benefit industry and labor—the industry and labor that have their abode in this republic, as contrasted with industry and labor which cover the American market without paying the American wage. And it would have accomplished this end, if it had been given a fair chance.

It is the Republican policy, in its treatment of American interests, to have neither friends to favor nor enemies to punish; but to give to each industry the fullest measure of tariff protection seemingly necessary to its legitimate needs without working harm or havoc to the general weal. As a policy, this may be wrong, but it is at least consistent. Upon the other hand, the Democratic promise is one having neither fixity of purpose nor distinctness of interpretation. It offers no definite hope to the American manufacturer nor yet extends relief to the laborer it has filled with discontent. It is neither a promise of a protection nor an assurance of free trade. It pledges no sufficient revenue nor guarantees one steady market. It is fish to this man, flesh to another and to a third is foul with the certainty of his industrial destruction.

It is therefore incumbent upon all honest and consistent Democrats to unite with Republicans in the fight against Wilson's bill. It is the duty of all Democrats to stand upon solid ground; to be either revenue reformers or advocates of consistent protection. The Wilson bill is neither one thing nor the other. Its protection is incidental and accidental, while its attempts at revenue reform simply broaden and deepen the chasm that divides this government from solvency. Better far, a law which is honest and emphatic, though it be thought erroneous in principle, than an experiment which has no principle, and a threat whose only visible consequence is immediate and widespread ruin.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

The business depression which affects well nigh the whole of Christendom, has produced in the United States no more serious economic question than that of the relief of the involuntary unemployed. The prevalent distress is general, affecting both country and city. In northern Michigan, for instance, ten thousand persons must be provided with food during the winter by public charity, and the number of the unemployed in the city of Philadelphia is fully fifty thousand. Throughout the nation, one million persons, at least, are now unable by their own efforts to secure "daily bread." The problem is one not local, but national.

In the cities a variety of influences have united to produce this alarming condition of affairs. The tendency of population is naturally toward the large centers. The city, as an integral element of nineteenth century civilization, slowly but surely gathers to itself an increasing proportion of the population. This trend is increased by the growing efficiency in civic administration, the advance in industrial productive capacity, the increase of material comfort and the steps taken in economic progress. Every new machine, every new street or street railway, means a loss in numbers to the rural districts and a gain to the cities. In the eighteenth century one-third of the population abode in towns; in the nineteenth, one-fourth dwell in cities.

This natural social trend has been reinforced for evil during the past fifteen years by the influx from the continent of Europe of foreign laborers, competing disastrously in many lines of employment with English-speaking workmen. The glut of population produced by the centralizing influence of the city has been intensified by the presence and power of alien labor.

The method of relief most acceptable and honorable, both to those in want and to the charity disposed to work. Unfortunately this method is inapplicable in many cases. Where such is the fact succor may best be given through relief committees composed of private persons, like the committee organized in Philadelphia, bringing to bear upon the problem of aid the executive ability and the moral power of men such as John H. Converse and Robert C. Ogden, and securing, through systematic organization, the best results. It is desirable, therefore, for municipalities, as far as possible, to find work for the destitute. The example of the Benevolent association in a neighboring city, which purchased a large quantity of stone for the unemployed to break, is a good one to follow. There may be no immediate use for the stone, but it can be utilized in the future, and it keeps men from starving by having them earn a living.

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NO ROOM FOR REGRET.
We learn from the Troy Times, which pleads ably for prosperity in the making of cuffs and collars, that it regrets those conditions which have been the means of giving acceptable employment to many men in Pennsylvania's anthracite mines. In other words, it regrets what it calls "the monopolistic nature of the business," or the nature which urges anthracite operators to act in concert and harmony, rather than let insatiable competition eventuate in mutual ruin.

It occurs to us, in view of the comparative lightness with which the business depression has touched this section, that the miners and tradesmen of Scranton will not share in this Trojan regret. When steel mills closed and factories were forced to shorten hours, or suspend altogether, the good business forethought which enabled our mine owners to keep the mines in almost steady operation did not show up hereabouts in the light of a local calamity.

The collar manufacturers of Troy would do well to imitate the prudence and the sound commercial caution which have recently been brought into prominence in the management of the anthracite trade.

There will be no revival until the tariff question is settled. It will then be a question as to whether the revival will take place in this country or in Europe.—Mr. Grove at Lancaster.

MINOR FACTS AND FANCIES.

It will doubtless surprise ex-Congressman Osborne, of Wilkes-Barre, to learn in yesterday's editorial that he had exchanged shoes with his distinguished father, George E. S. Osborne, and become ex-Congressman Osborne. It certainly surprised the writer of the editorial, who wrote "ex-Congress" as plain as copper plate script could make it. But until advancing civilization shall evolve an editor, a proof reader and a compositor capable of mutual agreement, such surprises will occur.

Several of our religious contemporaries are taking up the cudgel against surface railway companies in large cities whose cars move at great speed through crowded streets and offer pedestrians little or no security against accident. One, the New York Christian Advocate, prints an editorial branding such companies as morally guilty of murder. So far as Scranton is concerned, there has not yet, under the present traction system, been any general cause for complaint. It is probable, though, that "fenders," or staying chain networks as adjusted to a pick a person up and deposit him in the netting unharmed, will form a feature of all trolley cars in the near future. The cost is slight and the security great.

The newspapers of Luzerne are for once in accord with those in Scranton in the matter of the collectorship headquarters. They insist that Bloomsburg is no place for it. What they don't claim, and what, of course they should claim, is that there is only one place in the district for it. Scranton is not only the chief business point in the district, but it is, moreover, the only one offering the free accommodations of a federal building that is simply superb in all its appointments. It is questionable if a collector, Herring could get his headquarters moved from Scranton if he were to try. And when he finds out what a fine place we're preparing to install him in, it is a pretty sure guess that he will not try.

Sunday's New York Recorder indulged itself in the following lurid flight of fancy: "Whee Farmer William L. Shutte, of Scranton, Pa., started for town with a lot of fish in his wagon a black bear walked along behind, put his fore paws on the tailboard and began to eat the fish. Shutte killed him with a fish spear, and then he had a bear to take to town, too."

For the benefit of New York city newspapers it should be said that the bear mentioned above was of the same species as those usually captured in the neighborhood of Union square, New York. While Scranton is only 116 miles by rail from New York, and the species of bears are similar, it is a peculiar fact that wild asses similar to those found in the jungles of Printing House square and Park Row, New York, have never been found in Scranton, except as freaks in dime museums.

The Railroad's Strong Point.
Philadelphia Press.
Congressman Mitchell appears to be engaged in a war with the Lehigh Valley railroad to determine which shall control the postoffice patronage in the Eighth district. As the collector of the railroad district, the railroad company is having rather the best of the controversy. Mr. Mitchell has to take what he can get while the railroad company takes what it wants.

Where Has All This Money Gone?
From a lecture by J. F. Johnson.
In 1890 the indebtedness of American cities amounted to \$124,000,000. In the next twenty years their debt increased to \$622,000,000. Here is an increase of 500 per cent., whereas the population of cities had not increased 150 per cent.

Parking Up the Wrong Tree.
Philadelphia Press.
If the Democrats as part of the policy of democratization expect by imposing an income tax to discourage the "practicing" among Americans of acquiring an income they are backing up the wrong tree.

Bad Month for Such Roads.
Hingham Commercial.
It is safe to say that any miniature railroad, locomotive and train of cars given, a small boy on Christmas day has by this time passed into the hands of a recipient.

The Motion Is Carried.
Albion Gazette.
Cleveland to Queen Lili. "Let us adjourn."

Love's Lingering Fire.
Philadelphia Record.
She laid against his warm breast, Her rosy cheek so fair, And when he reached his home that night His impress still was there.

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Electric Seal Capes, " " 12.00
French Coney Capes, " " 13.00
Mink Capes, " " 14.00
Brown Marten Capes, " " 15.00
Monkey Capes, " " 16.00

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Boys' Knee Pants, worth 60c.; now 35c.

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